forts, palaces, havelies, etc, if converted into hotels can be classified as heritage hotels, thereby providing a new dimension to tourism to the country. So far 22 hotels with 702 rooms have been classified under the Heritage category.

(c) It is not practical to estimate the impact of the scheme on tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings seperately as tourist traffic is guided by a number of factors. There is no doubt however that these grand buildings do appeal to the imagination of foreign tourists.

Payment of salary to IA staff

292. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines had to report to over-drafting for paying the ralaries of staff and employees during recent months as reported in the Pioneer of 13th October, 1994; and

(b) if so, under what circumstances rj what extent?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Decision to cut operations on uneconomical routes bv IA o

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-BHAJTRAO SHINDE: Win the OATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

the Indian Airlines has cut operations on uneconomical routes in India and seek more flights in overseas sector with a view to blending social responsibility with commercial viability; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the routes on which operations are to be cut or augmented under this decision?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No decision has yet been taken by Indian Airlines in this regard.

Scheme for promotion of tourism

294. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform scheme for promotion of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, whether places in West Bengal have been brought under the purview of such scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reaasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) For development of tourism in the country, a National Action plan for tourism was evolved and presented in Parliament in May, 1992. The Action Plan stipulates the priorities of the Government for development of tourism and strategy for its achivement. The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to the State Governments including West Bengal in respect of projects/ schemes prioritiesd in consultation with them for intensive development structural facilities, develop- Special Tourism Areas, diver- of tourism products, promotion of fair s and festivals, development of infrastructure for domestic tourism etc.

देश में निजी विमान कम्पनियों का प्रचालन

295. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय कौन-कौन सी निजी विमान कम्पनियां कार्यरत हैं और उनकी विमानन-क्षमतायें क्या-क्या हैं ; और